

Dear Sir or Madam with the FCC:

XM Satellite radio is one of the best services ever to hit the air waves. I rely on it to provide uninterrupted commercial free music ever time I sit behind my wheel. But, although local radio stations may think they're loosing listeners, I really never listened to "over the air" programming - I only listened to CD's, not regular radio. Before I installed XM Satellite Radio about 3 years ago, it was a constant battle to find local stations as I'd go on long road trips. See, I live in Kansas, and my occasional drive thru western Kansas brings with it no local radio station coverage - it's in the middle of nowhere, what better than to impress your friends with satellite reception. The thought that XM is now providing local traffic and weather just excites me. Although at present, XM satellite radio's instant traffic reports are not covering Kansas City (where I live), I still find it amazing that I can listen to traffic reports in distant cities, and know what's happening . . . so when I call my friends down in Dallas - I can quiz them about their weather and say "hey, I heard about this traffic problem on . . . " Anyway, the thought that this new innovation could be taken away from me is terribly upsetting. I must remind you that I am a PAYING customer, meaning that in order for me to receive XM Satellite Radio; I must pay a monthly fee. Why then are you attempting to restrict the broadcasting services that they provide? In my mind, if I could pay my local radio station NOT to play commercials and have better programming, I'd be willing to pay the local guys. But why then, do the Local Radio's National Association of Broadcasters want to complain that a better mousetrap has come along and people are willing to pay for it? For me, it's all about choice -- and that's what XM provides. Please don't take this choice away from me. Remember, you hold the power to help me, please reject the NAB's petition 04-160.

This is all about free speech. And XM Satellite is not a publicly accessible system. I mean, in order to access XM, one must subscribe to it. Any person willing to pay can access this XM service, so maybe it is a public system, but regardless of how the service is obtained, what merit does the National Association of Broadcasters have to limit the services that a private company could offer it's paying customers. I'm sorry; I really just don't see the complaint made by the NAB.

Oh, and if we really want to point fingers, we should complain that the Internet has taken business away from FedEx to deliver documents over night. The availability of an instant connection with the Internet has actually improved society. Why then, can we as a society not tolerate satellite based radio programming? Come on, let's get a life. Vote NO on the NAB's petition 04-160.

Thank you for your time to read this,
Tyler Meyersick